

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the Applicants' representatives during the personal interview conducted on December 14, 2004. The Office Action of October 12, 2004 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-21 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner requested Applicant to provide a translation of Korean Patent Publication No. 10-2000-31956, which was submitted with an earlier Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant herewith submits a certified translation of Korean Patent Publication No. 10-2000-31956 for proper consideration.

In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 9, 10 and 11-15, 17, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Niwano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,452,656); rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Niwano et al.; rejected claims 7, 8, 18, 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Niwano et al. in view of Applicant's Related Art (ARA); rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Niwano et al. in view of Jacobson (U.S. Patent No. 6,124,851). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Pursuant to the discussions during the interview, Applicant respectfully submits that Niwano et al. fails to teach every element and limitation of the claimed invention. Moreover, since neither ARA nor Jacobson cures the deficiencies of Niwano et al., Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims, claims 1-21, are in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37

C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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